

TERMS OF REFERENCE – Activity Based Contract

PAGE Green Recovery project - Mongolia

Local Consultant for Green Jobs and Decent Work Assessment Ger Nature based tourism project

Estimated date: 25 September 2021 – 31 July 2022 (2.5 days/week *44 weeks = 110 days)

BACKGROUND

The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) was launched in 2013 as a response to the call at Rio+20 to support those countries wishing to embark on greener and more inclusive growth trajectories. Mongolia graduated from PAGE in 2019, but as graduated country it was eligible and ultimately successful in receiving funding for a green recovery project.

The PAGE Green Recovery project in Mongolia aims to increase the green activities in the tourism sector by promoting community-based eco- and cultural tourism in rural herding communities, who as custodians of nomadic lifestyle and culture, will be the main beneficiaries. A “Ger and Nature” (GaN) scheme is being proposed, whereby individual community groups will become hosts to cultural and adventure tourists. Tourists will be linked with community groups through the development innovative technology platforms; further the project will leverage private sector collaboration and investment, and establish respective standards, certification and quality assurance processes for sustainability and decent work with tourism operators and provide targeted capacity building opportunities to respective actors in the GaN scheme.

UN Mongolia Socio-Economic Response Plan for COVID-19 states that the economic contraction associated with the pandemic is further exacerbating socio-economic vulnerabilities of herders, women, and low-skilled youth. An estimated 58% of herders and farmers are experiencing income loss due to the fall in livestock commodity prices and weak international demand, on which their livelihoods almost solely rely.

The tourism sector, the 3rd largest contributor to the economy, has been most severely impacted by Covid-19. In the first 8 months of 2020, travel and tourism export declined by 94%. At the same time, the tourism sector has huge potential to grow given Mongolia’s great landscapes and scenery, a vast network of protected areas, and a unique cultural heritage, which help fulfil the criteria of an emerging adventure and ecotourism destination. Chiefly, nomadic herders are found to be most vulnerable to the climate change impacts due to decline in ecosystem services, on which their livelihood depend on. For this reason the project will emphasise the closer link to ecosystem restoration as part of the eco-tourism model.

OBJECTIVES

Nature based solutions need to combine management, conservation and ecosystem restoration with eco-tourism opportunities. The ILO activities to this Green Recovery project will assess how green jobs and green skills can be promoted as part of the “Ger and Nature” initiative. The Ger and Nature initiative will focus efforts on the link between nature based tourism and ecosystem management/ restoration and how this will involve transition from one form of economic/ employment activity (livestock/ herding/ wool production) to eco-tourism (tourism plus also ecosystem management and restoration activities). The scale and breadth of transition requires a broad range of stakeholders to develop and implement – herders, workers, government, wool and livestock supply chain but also

other institutions to support transition including financial institutions, training and educational systems.

Nature-based solutions can be job rich, but requires aligned policy settings, training and skills development. The objective of the ILO work is to provide an assessment of green jobs potential and analysis of existing policy settings for supporting green jobs as a practical tool for understanding institutional capacity for green jobs policy development, by:

- a) analysis of green job potential opportunities in the nature-based tourism sector and linkages to other relevant sectors (e.g. Cashmere);
- b) identifying gaps related to employment and decent work standards;
- c) capacity building for stakeholders on green jobs and identifying just transition issues through knowledge intensive activities (informal knowledge acquisition).

The objective of this assignment is to provide technical support to the activities of PAGE Green Recovery activities in Mongolia by providing technical inputs including data collection, analysis and reporting. The ILO is undertaking a Green Jobs and Decent Work Assessment linked to the wider PAGE Green Recovery project on nature-based tourism

The role of the National Consultant will be to:

1. **Contribution to green jobs opportunities assessment** – using the *Ger and Nature* concept (developed separately by UNDP) assess opportunities for green jobs and gaps/barriers analysis for achieving good employment outcomes. Key tasks include background labour force data and document analysis, implementation of guided questionnaire, either undertaken one-on-one or in focus group meetings involving tripartite partners and other related social and private sector stakeholders, and collation of findings into a report.
2. **Contribution to analysis of work standards and gaps in decent work** – Link to activity 1 and 3, through interviews or focus group discussions (in the tripartite consultations) analyse decent work standards in the *Ger and Nature*-based tourism sector, and how gaps and deficits can be addressed in capacity building activities.
3. **Contribution to Tripartite consultations** – including support to organise and conduct consultations (up to 2) to verify findings from task 1 and gather social partners inputs into the standards, roadmap and further capacity building activities for the sector.
4. **Contribution to Capacity development plan, training materials and on-site training activities** - The ILO will partner with relevant organisations to develop a capacity building experiential activity on *Ger/ Nature*-based tourism (a tour). This activity will included knowledge on decent work agenda including youth rights at work, gender-oriented trainings, and also train herders on safety and health instruction. Subject to Covid-19 protocols this activity will engage regional destinations and include knowledge related to comb cashmere, horse riding etc. The whole experience of introducing a life-exploring eco-tourism, starting from route development until fare welling the first tourists will be documented, and produced as a guideline for further replication and for training the trainers. The task for the appointed National Consultant will be to provide inputs to the capacity development plan, training materials and assistance in the conduct of on-site training activities.

Requirements

The consultant should have a higher degree in social sciences (Masters or higher) particularly in fields related to environmental sustainability, climate change, green growth and green employment. A bachelor degree in social sciences is required.

Experience in research methods including literature reviews, interviewing and interview analysis is essential, experience in these using online formats will be an advantage.

It is expected the consultant has high skills in drafting and synthesizing research findings in the English language. The candidate will participate in an interview in English language.

Deliverables

This assignment has six expected deliverables:

- i. Research note for activity 1, including relevant findings for the capacity development plan (10-15-page word document);
- ii. Research note for activity 2, including relevant findings for the capacity development plan (10-15 page word document);
- iii. Summary of findings from tripartite consultations;
- iv. Coordination of capacity building-trainings-experiential tours;
- v. Contributions to training materials for capacity building and tours – PPT, contents, and guidance note;
- vi. Participation in ILO ROAP Green Jobs team meetings, Asia Pacific Green Jobs Network meetings, contribution to revisions of documents, preparation of draft inputs to PAGE reports, commentaries and PPP presentations as required.

Timeline

The assignment is expected to run from **September 2021 – July 2022**, with 110 days required to complete the assignment during this time (2.5 days/week *44 weeks = 110 days).

Supervision

The work will be carried out under the supervision of Dr Cristina Martinez, Senior Environment and Decent Work Specialist, ILO; Ms Bolormaa Purevsuren, ILO National Coordinator for Mongolia and Dr Samantha Sharpe, ISF, PAGE Asia Senior Consultant and knowledge partner.

Deadline for submission of application

Interested candidates should send by **21 September 2021** their application with **1 page Technical and financial proposal and a CV** to:

ulaanbaatar@ilo.org with subject “PAGE”, with copy to

Ms Pan Wei, CO Beijing Admin Assistant, panwei@ilo.org